(No Model.)

E. A. BRUCE & H. J. CAMPBELL.

COMBINED INKSTAND AND PEN RACK.

No. 387,280. Patented Aug. 7, 1888.

Fig. 1.

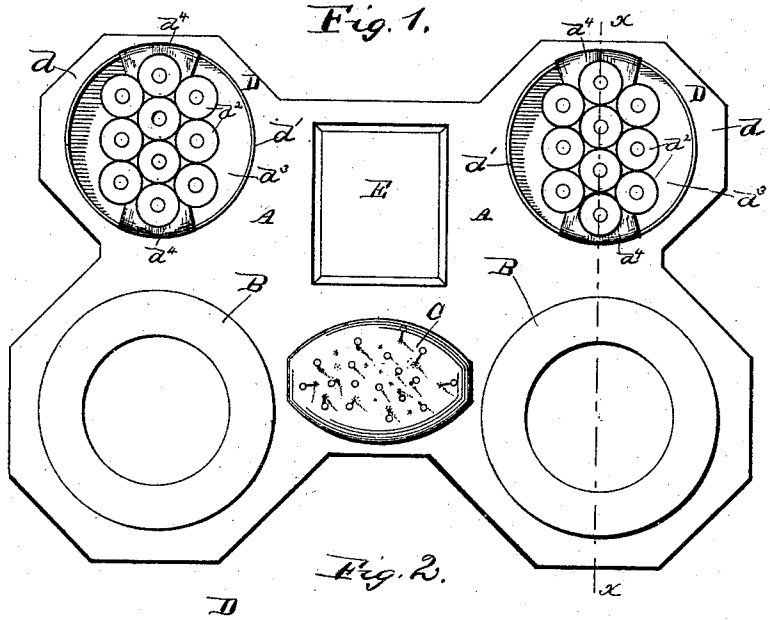


Fig. 2.

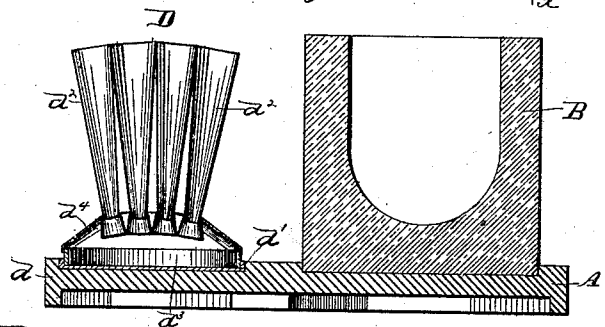


Fig. 3.

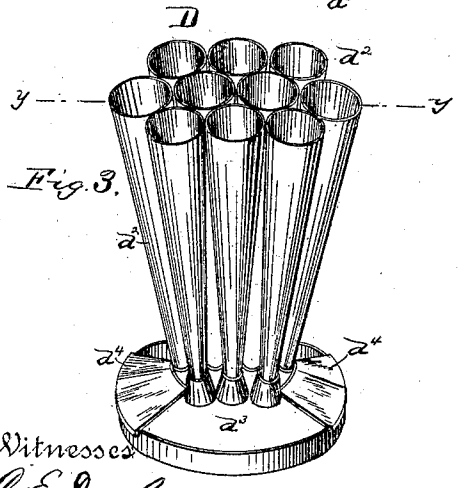
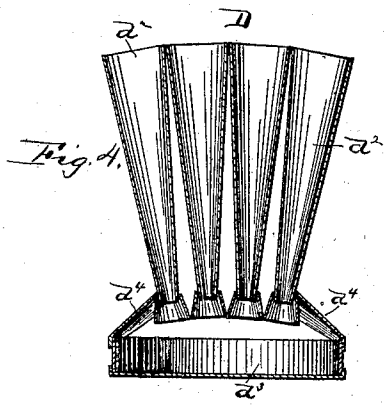


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMUND A. BRUCE AND HUGH J. CAMPBELL, OF YANKTON, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

COMBINED INKSTAND AND PEN-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 387,280, dated August 7, 1888.

Application filed October 13, 1886. Renewed December 22, 1887. Serial No. 258,752. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDMUND A. BRUCE and HUGH J. CAMPBELL, citizens of the United States, residing at Yankton, in the county of Yankton and Territory of Dakota, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combined Inkstand and Pen-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in inkstands and pen-holders; and it consists of the peculiar combination and novel construction and arrangement of the various parts for service, substantially as hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The primary object of our invention is to provide improved means for supporting and holding pen and pen-holders of any size or shape in a vertical or upright position, and with the point of the pen downward, so that the ink thereon will flow or drop downward from the pen when the latter is fitted in the holder, thereby very materially increasing the efficiency and durability of the pen by keeping it free from accumulations of ink thereon; and, further, providing a means, by the use of a conical-shaped tube or cell, whereby a pen or pen-holder inserted in the top of said tube or cell will descend into the same until that part of the pen or pen-holder which is largest or widest comes in contact with the sides of said conical tube or cell and is arrested thereby and held securely in an upright position, thus providing the means whereby pens or pen-holders of any size can be easily placed and held therein without injury to the nib or point of pen or pens.

A further object of our invention is to provide the pen holding or supporting device with means whereby the ink flowing from the pens supported therein will be caught and retained to prevent the inkstand and other articles and furniture from being defaced and soiled by the waste inks, said device being easily and readily cleaned when desired, and arranged at a suitable distance from the pen-holding devices, so that the pens will not be immersed in the waste ink.

A further object of our invention is to provide an improved inkstand and pen-holder combined, which shall be ornamental and attractive in appearance, cheap and inexpensive of manufacture, and efficient and reliable in service.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a top or plan view of a combined inkstand and pen-holder embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detached view, in perspective, of the pen-holder on an enlarged scale. Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line *y* of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates the base of our invention, upon which is mounted or placed the ink-wells B. The base and ink-wells may be formed in a single piece of glass or other suitable material; or the base may be of metal or wood and the ink-wells of glass or like material. The ink-wells are designed to receive inks of any suitable colors—as, for instance, red and black—and they are arranged at the front of the base, on opposite sides thereof and in line with each other, to provide an intervening space, in which is located a cushion, C, of any approved pattern. This cushion is also arranged at the front of the base and between the ink-wells, so as to be out of the way and always within convenient reach to insert a pin therein or withdraw one therefrom.

The base A of the device is extended in rear of the ink-wells, as at *d*, and these extensions are each provided with a depressed socket or seat, *d'*, on the upper side and at the middle thereof, in which are removably fitted the the drip pans or trays of the pen-holding devices D, which will be hereinafter more fully described. The pen-holding devices are thus arranged immediately in rear of the ink-wells, and the base is provided with a recessed chamber or receptacle, E, between the sockets for the pen-holding devices and in rear of the pin-cushion C, this chamber or receptacle being provided for the safe retention and storage of pens, rubbers, and other writer's accessories.

The pen-holder D consists of one or more tubular receptacles, d^2, each of which is in the form of an inverted cone and open at both its

lower and upper ends, a receiving pan or tray, d^3, which is arranged beneath the receptacles and out of contact therewith to receive the drippings from the pens and to prevent the latter from being immersed in the waste ink, and a bridge, d^4, which is connected to the drip pan or tray and the conical receptacles to elevate the lower extremities of the latter above and out of contact with the drip-pan.

We may employ only one of the conical receptacles, in which case it is connected to the bridge in such manner that the lower reduced end thereof opens through the bridge; but we prefer to employ a number of the receptacles for the purpose of holding a number of pens and pencils. These receptacles are grouped and arranged in any suitable manner, with their contracted ends brought together, and they are connected very firmly and securely together by soldering, inclosing-bands, or other suitable means. The said receptacles are further secured upon the bridge so that their lower ends are left open and free for the free escape of the waste ink, and the lower extremities of the receptacles are elevated by the bridge above the drip-pan, to thereby prevent the pens and pencils inserted in the receptacles from being immersed in the contents of the drip-pan.

The operation of our invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings.

The pen is inserted into one of the conical receptacles with the point downward, after having used it, and descends into the said receptacle until the lower enlarged end or the widest part of the pen-holder or pen impinges against the sides of the receptacle, and is thereby maintained in an upright or vertical position, so that the ink will drip off the pen and flow into the drip pan or tray. The inkstand and holder can be made of any suitable material and ornamented to any desired extent. The device is cheap and inexpensive of manufacture and effective and reliable in service. Pen-holders or pens of any size and shape will be securely held and retained in the receptacles, as may, also, pencils to protect the sharpened end thereof from injury. If desired, the conical receptacles may be formed of coiled wire, or used separate and apart from combination herein described, and for the sole purpose and use as a pen stand or rack.

Slight changes in the form and proportion of parts may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of our invention.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A pen-holder comprising a drip pan or tray and a receptacle elevated above and carried by the said pan, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

2. A pen-holder comprising a drip pan or tray and an inverted cone-shaped receptacle suspended above the tray and having an open lower end, substantially as described.

3. A pen-holder comprising a drip pan or tray, one or more cone-shaped receptacles arranged above the pan, and a bridge intermediate of the pan and the receptacle or receptacles, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

4. A pen-holder comprising a single drip pan or tray, a series of inverted conical receptacles grouped and connected together and having the open lower and upper ends, and a bridge intermediate of the drip-pan and the receptacles to elevate the lower ends of the latter above the pan, substantially as described.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a combined inkstand and pen-holder comprising a base, the ink-wells arranged at one side thereof, the receptacles E, and the grouped tubes connected with a drip-pan removably fitted on the base, substantially as described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDMUND A. BRUCE.
HUGH J. CAMPBELL.

Witnesses:
E. M. O'BRIEN,
W. L. BRUCE.